

SCHIFF HARDIN LLP

PATENT DEPARTMENT

6600 SEARS TOWER

233 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606

CONF. NO.: 2636

Serial No.:

09/864,990

Bruce A. Seiber

GROUP ART UNIT: 2828

Filed:

May 24, 2001

EXAMINER: P. Nguyen

For:

ARRANGEMENTS FOR INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES

RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 18, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

| 5. 5 4 25. C. (1) | CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | | (4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | (5) PRESENT EXTRA | (6) RATE | (7) ADDITIONA FEE |
|----------------------|---|-------|--|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| TOTAL CLAIMS | *22 | MINUS | *26* | | () X 25.00 (X) X 50.00 | \$.00 |
| INDEP. CLAIMS | * 3 | MINUS | 3 | | () X 100.00 () X 200.00 | \$00.00 |
| | nended to contain ependent claims paid for. | | | (') YES | ()\$150.00 ()\$300.00 ONE TIME | \$.00 |

If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

| ** | If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20 write "20" in this space. |
|----|--|
| | Applicants petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend this time for response to the Office Action dated |
| | for month so that the period for response is extended to A check in the amount of \$ is attached to |
| | cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to deposit account No. |
| | 501519. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. |
| • | A check in the amount of \$ _ is attached. |
| | A check for \$ accompanying IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(c) is attached |
| | A check for \$ and Petition for Consideration of IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(d) is attached. |
| | The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment |
| | to account No. 501519. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed. |
| | When phoning re this application, please call (312) 258-5774. |
| | SCHIEF HARDIN LIP (Customer Number: 000128) |

NAME OF AP

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 13, 2006.

February

ATTORNEY

(25,542)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants: B. A. Seiber

Serial No.: 09/864,990

For: ARRANGEMENTS FOR INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES

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Confirmation No.: 2636

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

February 13, 2006

Trevor B. Joike Reg. No. 25, 342

Attorney for Applicants

RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 18, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-8, 12, and 14-26 are now in the application. Of these claims, claims 1-7 and 15-26 are allowed, claim 8 is rejected, and claims 10, 12, and 14 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim but are otherwise considered to be allowable.